

Amendments to the Specification:

Page 13, line 12, please amend the paragraph starting on as follows:

In a preferred embodiment, the schema generator 150, the DTD generator 156, and the database integrator ~~158~~168 are software tools that are part of the FAC software suite. In addition to the schema definition 152, the schema registration may also require the specification of additional information about the data source 18, such as contact information, for data management purposes and helping implement an efficient table design. It is a requirement that generator applications 150 and 156 generate data consistent with specifications provided in the schema registry 22. Once registration is complete, the client application is registered as a supplier client application 12a with the server 20.

Page 18, line 12, please amend the paragraph starting on as follows:

In operation, after files 34 have been deposited into the import repository 24, the first step of the database integration is for the database integrator ~~158~~168 to validate the XML file 34 against the corresponding DTD 154. Thereafter, the XML loader 26 parses each of the XML files 34 in the import repository 24 and stores the name/value pairs in the FAC database 28 according to the data hierarchy of the original data source 18 as specified by the DTD 154.